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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/716,160	11/18/2003	Ronald S. Cok	84807ADAN	5284

7590 04/20/2005

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EXAMINER

PERRY, ANTHONY T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2879

DATE MAILED: 04/20/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/716,160

Applicant(s)

COK ET AL.

Examiner

Anthony T. Perry

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 January 2004.
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 18 November 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 11/18/03, 12/29/03.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-5, 11-13 and 16-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over applicant's admitted prior art in view of Briggs et al. (US 5,131,065) in view of Roitman et al. (US 6,680,570).

Regarding claims 1 and 20, the admitted prior art discloses an OLED display device comprising a substrate (12), an array of OLED elements (30,19,18) formed on the substrate (12) and an encapsulating cover (36) disposed over the OLED elements (30,19,18) wherein the light emitted is incoherent (for example, see Fig. 1 of the present application). The prior art admitted by the applicant teaches a transparent substrate as the faceplate and not specifically a fiber-optic faceplate.

The Briggs reference however teaches an OLED display device that uses a fiber-optic faceplate (see for example Fig. 3). Fiber-optic faceplates exhibit lower percentages of internally reflected light rays and, therefore, provide greater luminance and better contrast than prior art faceplates. Accordingly one of ordinary skill in the art would have found it obvious to use a fiber-optic faceplate as taught by Briggs in place of the transparent substrate of the admitted prior art in order to provide greater luminance and better contrast. The prior art admitted by the applicant and the Briggs reference do not specifically teach the OLED elements defining an optical cavity.

However, the Roitman reference teaches the OLED elements defining an optical cavity so as to provide an improved OLED that has a predictable color output (for example, see col. 1, lines 40-44 and col. 2, lines 41-64). Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have the OLED elements define an optical cavity so as to provide an OLED with better color control.

Regarding claim 2, Roitman teaches the OLED elements comprising a first electrode; one or more layers of light emitting organic material formed on the first electrode; an electrode formed on the one or more layers of organic material; and wherein one of the electrodes is reflective and the other is partially reflective, and the electrodes being spaced apart by a sufficient distance to define an optical cavity in which light emitted from the organic material through the partially reflective electrode has a reduced angle of emission (for example, see col. 2, line 41 – col. 3, line 10).

The combination of claim 1 applies.

Regarding claim 3, fig. 1 of the present application shows a bottom-type emitter, which means that the substrate is the faceplate. The admitted prior art does not specifically teach the encapsulating cover being opaque or reflective. However, it is well known to have an opaque encapsulating cover in a bottom-type emitting OLED display device. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have the encapsulating cover be opaque so as to provide a bottom emitting OLED display device with excellent contrast.

The combination of claim 1 applies.

Regarding claim 4, the prior art admitted by the applicant teaches that OLED devices can be top-type emitters, in which case the encapsulating cover acts as the faceplate which emits

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light. In the case where a top emitter is used, one of ordinary skill in the art would have found it obvious to use a fiber-optic faceplate as the encapsulating cover. Fiber-optic faceplates exhibit lower percentages of internally reflected light rays and, therefore, provide greater luminance and better contrast than prior art faceplates. Accordingly one of ordinary skill in the art would have found it obvious to use a fiber-optic faceplate as taught by Briggs in place of the encapsulating cover of the admitted prior art in order to provide greater luminance and better contrast. Since only the cover needs to emit light one of ordinary skill in the art would have found it obvious to have utilized an opaque substrate so as to provide a top-emitting OLED display device with excellent contrast.

Regarding claim 5, the admitted prior art teaches that top emitting devices are the same as bottom emitting devices except that the cover 36, the second electrode 30, and the protection layer 32 are transparent (see fig. 1). Since the top emitting devices emit light from the OLED material 19 through the cover 36, one of ordinary skill in the art would have found it obvious to fill the gap 34 with a transparent material rather than an opaque or reflective material so that the light emitted from the OLED material 19 can be emitted through the cover 36 which acts as the faceplate of the device 10.

Regarding claim 11, the Briggs reference shows the fiber-optic faceplate including one fiber (82) per OLED element (see Fig. 3). The combination of claim 1 applies.

Regarding claims 12, the Briggs reference shows OLED elements arranged in groups of elements that include one fiber (82) per group of elements (see Fig. 3). The combination of claim 1 applies.

Regarding claim 13, the admitted prior art, Briggs, and Roitman do not specifically teach OLED elements in groups wherein the elements are differently colored elements. However, it is

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well known in the art to provide a pixel made up of sub-pixels of different colors, commonly red, green, and blue, in order to provide a color display. One of ordinary skill in the art would have found it obvious at the time the invention was made to replace the monochrome pixels of the Briggs reference with pixels comprising sub-pixels of different colors in order to provide a preferable color display.

Regarding claims 16-18, Roitman teaches a reflecting coating provided under a transparent conducting anode and that either the reflecting coating or the cathode is chosen such that part of the light generated in the device can be transmitted through one of the reflecting coating or the cathode (for example, see col. 3, lines 5-10). In the case that a bottom-emitting display is desired, the cathode (second electrode) is reflective and the anode (first electrode) is partially reflective, and comprises a transparent conductor such as ITO and a partially reflective mirror so that the light may be emitted through the anode. In the case that a top-emitting display is desired, the anode (first electrode) is reflective and the cathode (second electrode) is partially reflective so that the light may be emitted through the cathode.

Combination of claim 1 applies.

Regarding claim 19, the admitted prior art, Briggs, and Roitman fail to specifically teach an OLED emitting coherent light. However, OLEDs that use optical cavities in order to produce coherent light are well known in the art. One of ordinary skill in the art would have found it obvious at the time the invention was made to produce an OLED that emits coherent light for use in applications that require lasers.

Claims 6-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over applicant's admitted prior art in view of Briggs et al. (US 5,131,065), as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Webster (US 5,274,405).

Regarding claims 6-7, the combination of the applicant's prior art and Briggs fails to specifically teach the use of a fiber optic faceplate that is flat on one side and curved on the other. However, Fig. 8 of Webster shows a fiber optic faceplate 80 with the side connected to the image producing device 77 being flat and the light emitting output side 78a of the faceplate being curved. The fiber optic cables and interfaces allow images displayed on a flat surface to be displayed on a curved surface such as that used in a head-mounted viewing system to allow for the image to be displayed in both the viewer's area of visual attention and the area of the viewer's peripheral vision (col. 3, lines 10-23).

Accordingly, one of ordinary skill in the art would have found it obvious to use a fiber optic faceplate that is flat on the side mounted to the OLED flat device and curved on the light emitting side of the faceplate so as to display the image produced by the OLED device on a curved surface such as that used in a head-mounted viewing device so that visual information in the peripheral field of view is displayed resulting in a more realistic visual environment.

Claims 8-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over applicant's admitted prior art in view of Briggs et al. (US 5,131,065), as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Melville (US 6,205,275).

Regarding claim 8, the combination of the applicant's prior art and Briggs fails to specifically teach the use of an image magnifying fiber optic faceplate. However, Melville teaches a coherent fiber optic plate that transmits either a magnified or minified image from its input surface to its output surface. The magnification (or minification) ratio is the ratio of the diameters of the large and small ends of the taper. Since light can pass through the taper in either direction, a taper serves equally well to magnify or minify (reduce) an image. Melville teaches that representative tapers, as well as fiber optic face plates and fiber optic image guides,

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are commercially available (col. 7, lines 33-42). Accordingly, one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have found it obvious to use a magnifying fiber optic faceplate in order to enlarge or reduce the size of the image produced from the OLED device as desired.

Regarding claims 9-10, Melville teaches a fiber-optic faceplate that can enlarge or reduce the size of a viewed image.

Claims 14-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over applicant's admitted prior art in view of Briggs et al. (US 5,131,065), as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Lowry et al. (US 6,396,985).

Regarding claim 14, the combination of the applicant's prior art and Briggs fails to specifically teach the use of a tapered faceplate. However, Fig. 4 of the Lowry reference teaches the use of a tapered faceplate that has a smaller light receiving surface 320 and a larger light-emitting surface 330. One of ordinary skill in the art would have found it obvious at the time of the invention to use such a device in order to magnify the image of the OLED device and display it on a larger surface so that a group of people can view the OLED device's image.

Regarding claim 15, Fig. 2 of Lowry shows a tiled display including an array of such devices, wherein the edges of the light-emitting surfaces of the faceplates are abutting.

Rejection of claim 14 applies.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to *Anthony Perry* whose telephone number is (571) 272-2459. The examiner can normally be reached between the hours of 9:00AM to 5:30PM Monday thru Friday.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nimesh Patel, can be reached on (571) 272-24597. **The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 872-9306.**

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Anthony Perry
Patent Examiner
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April 18, 2005



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